



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Letter of Intent – Formation of the [REDACTED] Consortium

Attachments: List of Steering Committee Members

Current List of Prospective Members

Dear [REDACTED]:

This is to inform the Government that on the [REDACTED], representatives from the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in the United States (hereafter referred to as the “Steering Committee”), and representatives from the [REDACTED], met in [REDACTED] to discuss alternatives for working together with other interested members from the [REDACTED] community to support and stimulate research of [REDACTED] technologies that are of mutual benefit and interest, and to secure, from the Department of Defense (DoD), an increase in the level of Government funding currently available for such activities.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Steering Committee agreed to accept an offer from the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to assist the Steering Committee in structuring a consortium that would be recognized by the DoD as a viable candidate for enhanced program funding. To accomplish this, it is the intent of the Steering Committee that the [REDACTED] Consortium [REDACTED] be formed, governed, and run for the purpose of:

- Providing an opportunity for consortium members to participate in DoD research planning as industry representative, resulting in a plan based on industry expert knowledge of evolving technologies
- Identifying and submitting potential research projects from traditional and non-traditional defense contractors that are consistent with such plan
- Allowing for better leveraging of industry IR&D funding
- Lowering the entry barriers for small companies to enter into the Government acquisition process
- Providing a single point of contact for working with the [REDACTED] community
- Facilitating other goals that the Government may further elect to present for the consortium’s consideration.

The Steering Committee intends to actively investigate and consider the numerous issues associated with the formation of the [REDACTED], which will include reaching out to non-traditional companies and organizations to join the [REDACTED], developing milestones and timelines for the formation of the [REDACTED], including the further definition of the proposed organization structure, and taking such other actions as are necessary for the formation and

operation of the [REDACTED], and the commencing of discussions with the Government regarding a potential Other Transaction (OT) contract vehicle.

The Steering Committee currently believes that formation of the [REDACTED] as an [REDACTED] controlled by [REDACTED] with pass through tax status would permit the organization to leverage the current experience, organization and other strengths of the [REDACTED], a corporation with [REDACTED] years experience as the industry's only consortium. Details of this concept are still being discussed by the Steering Committee and will require additional refining.

It is anticipated that the Steering Committee, as part of its efforts to form the [REDACTED], will adapt membership provisions intended to facilitate broad, fair and open participation by traditional and non-traditional U.S. defense companies, academic institutions, and non-profit organizations who express interest in joining the [REDACTED] and decide to do so by agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Membership Agreement. The Steering Committee further anticipates undertaking various activities intended to actively reach out to non-traditional defense contractor companies and organizations and solicit their engaged participation in the [REDACTED].

The Steering Committee will undertake to address these fundamental issues as quickly, yet as prudently, as possible. In the mean time, by vote of its members, the Steering Committee has designated the [REDACTED] to serve as the Government's "single point of entry" to the [REDACTED] Consortium.

Working as efficiently and effectively as possible, the Steering Committee intends to form the consortium and negotiate an OT agreement with the Government that will meet the aggressive Government objectives, milestones, and timelines outlined in the Industry/Academia Day presentations. Any determination as to milestones and timelines, however, are dependent on subsequent discussions with the Government and among the potential members of the [REDACTED].

On behalf of the Steering Committee and the organizations it represents, with this letter we have clearly and certainly stated our intent to form the [REDACTED] Consortium. We look forward to the opportunity to work closely with you, as the industry's single [REDACTED] consortium, to determine how we might best accomplish our mutual goals.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]